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THE MIKADO

The origin of "The Mikado" is wrapped in mystery. It is said that the idea came to W. S. Gilbert as he sat alone in his study gazing at a sword of Japanese origin. His thoughts flashed to scenes of Oriental dances, comedy and intrigue. It was only a short time afterwards that the text of "The Mikado" appeared with Arthur Sullivan's music following soon afterwards.

"The Mikado" had its premiere at the Savoy Theatre in London on the evening of March 14th, 1885. Musical history was made. Gilbert and Sullivan were received with thunderous applause when they appeared publicly at the end of the performance.

With the passing of the years songs from "The Mikado" have become more deeply entrenched in the hearts and minds of the English-speaking world. Tradition, the author's crackling wit, and romance have been responsible for its outstanding success.

The scope of "The Mikado" does not end with stage performances; the work has been filmed. Nevertheless for those who thrill to the glow of footlights in a darkened hall, the D'Oyly Carte stage production remains, perhaps, the most entertaining of all.

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- - THE MIKADO - - OR THE TOWN OF TITIPU

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

THE MIKADO OF JAPAN LIEUT. GEOFFREY DAVIES
NANKI-POO WILLIAM C. CAMPBELL
(His son, disguised as a wandering minstrel in love with Yum-Yum)
KO-KO (Lord High Executioner of Titipu) JAMES C. DUNCAN
POOH-BAH (Lord High Everything Else) MORLEY MARGOLESE
PLSH-TUSH (A Noble Lord) THOMAS A. KINES
GO-TO (A Noble Lord) ERNEST ENNS
YUM-YUM }
PITTI-SING } Three Sisters — { HONORA JEX
PEEP-BO } Wards of Ko-Ko { MARY-LOUISE NIGHSWANDER
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Chorus of Men

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Basses — Bob Alliston, Jack Aitken, William Berry, Ernest Enns, Bill Gill, Alan Hockin, August Johnson, Harvey Korstrom, Robert Leggat, Hugh MacPhail, Bob Schumacher, Kenneth Williamson.

Guards — Mac Bredt, Leslie Woodcock.

Coolies — David Wiens, James Duff, Harold Huestis, John Bethel, Stan Ashman, Billy Pearson.

Axe-Bearer — Robert Hopper.

ACT ONE



SCENE — Courtyard of Ko-Ko's Official Residence.

DATE —

TIME Early Afternoon.

Nanki-Poo, son of the Mikado, in the disguise of a minstrel, comes to the town of Titipu in search of Yum-Yum, ward of Ko-Ko, Lord High Executioner of Titipu. Yum-Yum has been promised in marriage to her guardian, Ko-Ko. Nanki-Poo declares his love for Yum-Yum and in order to be able to marry her, he offers to be beheaded in a month's time in accordance with the Mikado's desire to see an execution in Titipu.

OVERTURE

1. CHORUS OF MEN "If You Want to Know Who We Are."
2. SONG AND CHORUS (Nanki-Poo) "A Wandering Minstrel I."
3. SONG (Pish-Tush and Chorus) "Our Great Mikado Virtuous Man."
4. SONG (Pooh-Bah with Nanki-Poo and Pish-Tush)
"Young Man Despair Likewise Go To."
- 4a. RECIT. (Nanki-Poo and Pooh-Bah)
"And I Have Journey'd for a Month."
5. CHORUS WITH SOLO (Ko-Ko).... "Behold the Lord High Executioner."
- 5a. SONG (Ko-Ko with Chorus of Men) "As Some Day It May Happen."
6. CHORUS OF GIRLS "Comes a Train of Little Ladies."
7. TRIO (Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo, Pitti-Sing, with Chorus of Girls)
"Three Little Maids From School Are We."
8. QUARTETTE (Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo, Pitti-Sing and Pooh-Bah, with
Chorus of Girls) "So Please You Sir We Much Regret."
9. DUET (Yum-Yum and Nanki-Poo)
"Were You Not to Ko-Ko Plighted."
10. TRIO (Ko-Ko, Pooh-Bah, and Pish-Tush "I Am So Proud."
11. FINALE, ACT I. "With Aspect Stern and Gloomy Stride."

— INTERMISSION —

ACT TWO



SCENE — Ko-Ko's Garden.

TIME — The Next Morning.

Yum-Yum prepares for her wedding, but Ko-Ko tells her, and Nanki-Poo, that she will have to be buried alive as the widow of a deceased husband. He thinks of a plan to make out a false affidavit to say that Nanki-Poo has been beheaded. The Mikado's retinue approaches and the Emperor's first wish is to hear a description of the death of Nanki-Poo. Ko-Ko's vivid imagination comes to the rescue and he tells a tale of Nanki-Poo's death. The Mikado tells the gathering that his own son has been beheaded and the executioners will be boiled in oil. Ko-Ko finds Nanki-Poo and Yum-Yum, who have just been married, and the situation is cleared up, but not before Ko-Ko has been forced to marry Katisha, an elderly lady who loved Nanki-Poo. The Mikado pronounces his blessing and all live happily ever after.

1. SOLO (Pitti-Sing and Chorus of Girls) "Braid the Raven Hair."
2. SONG (Yum-Yum) "The Sun Whose Rays Are All Ablaze."
3. MADRIGAL (Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing, Nanki-Poo and Go-To)
"Brightly Dawns Our Wedding Day."
4. TRIO (Yum-Yum, Nanki-Poo and Ko-Ko)
"Here's a How-de-do, If I Marry You."
5. ENTRANCE OF MIKADO AND KATISHA "Mi-ya-sa-ma, mi-ya-sa-ma."
6. SONG (Mikado and Chorus)
"A More Humane Mikado Never Did in Japan Exist."
7. TRIO AND CHORUS (Pitti-Sing, Ko-Ko, Pooh-Bah and Chorus)
"The Criminal Cried as He Dropped Him Down."
8. GLEE (Pitti-Sing, Katisha, Ko-Ko, Mikado and Pooh-Bah)
"See How the Fates Their Gifts Allot."
9. DUET (Nanki-Poo and Ko-Ko with Yum-Yum, Pitti-Sing and
Pooh-Bah) "The Flowers That Bloom in the Spring."
10. RECIT. AND SONG (Katisha) "Alone and Yet Alive."
11. SONG (Ko-Ko) "On a Tree by the River Sang Little Tom Tit."
12. DUET (Katisha and Ko-Ko)
"There is Beauty in the Bellow of the Blast."
13. FINALE ACT II. "For He's Gone and Married Yum-Yum."

— THE END —

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